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the first polypeptide subunit, the second polypeptide subunit, and the linker polypeptide are expressed as a single fusion protein within the library of fusion proteins;
the first and second nucleotide sequences each independently varies within the library of expression vectors; and
the diversity of the library of fusion proteins is at least 1×10^7 .

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7. (Amended) The library of claim 1, wherein the diversity of the fusion proteins encoded by the library of yeast expression vectors is at least 1×10^6 .

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13. (Amended) The library of claim 1, wherein the library of fusion proteins encode a class of multimeric proteins and the first and the second polypeptide subunits are subunits of a multimeric protein in the class.

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25. (Amended) The library of claim 1, wherein the linker sequences in the library of expression vectors comprise a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence of Gly-Gly-Gly-Ser [SEQ ID NO: 76] in 3 or 4 tandem repeats.

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35. (Amended) A library of transformed yeast cells, comprising: yeast cells transformed with a library of yeast expression vectors, each vector comprising
a first nucleotide sequence encoding a first polypeptide subunit;
a second nucleotide sequence encoding a second polypeptide subunit; and
a linker sequence encoding a linker peptide that links the first nucleotide sequence and the second nucleotide sequence;
wherein

the first polypeptide subunit, the second polypeptide subunit, and the linker polypeptide are expressed as a single fusion protein;
the first and second nucleotide sequences each independently varies within the library of yeast expression vectors; and
the diversity of the fusion protein expressed by the library of yeast expression vector is at least 1×10^7 .

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Please add the following new claims --

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39. (New) The library of claim 1, each vector further comprising: a transcription sequence encoding an activation domain of a transcription activator.

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40. (New) The library of claim 39, wherein the transcription activator is selected from the group consisting of GAL4, GCN4, and ADR1 transcription activator.

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41. (New) The library of claim 1, each vector further comprising: a transcription sequence encoding a DNA binding domain of a transcription activator.

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42. (New) The library of claim 41, wherein the transcription activator is selected from the group consisting of GAL4, GCN4, and ADR1 transcription activator.

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43. (New) The library of claim 1, wherein the first nucleotide sequence and the second nucleotide sequence respectively encode a heavy chain variable region and a light chain variable region of a human immunoglobulin gene.

44. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the first nucleotide sequence encodes a heavy chain variable region of a first human immunoglobulin gene, and the second nucleotide sequence a light chain variable region of a second human immunoglobulin gene different from the first human immunoglobulin gene.

REMARKS

The present Amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action mailed March 20, 2001. Claims 1-9, 13-19, 22-27, and 35-38 remain pending. Claims 10-12 and 20-21 are canceled. Claims 39-44 are new. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks. For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicants' remarks are presented in the order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action.

1. Objections to the Claims 25 and 35

The Examiner objects to claim 25 for lacking a sequence identifier. Applicants amend claim 25 to include SEQ ID NO: 76 to identify the linker sequence. Withdrawal of this ground of objection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objects to claim 35 on the ground that the word "with" is missing from the claim. Applicants amend claim 35 to correct this editorial defect. Withdrawal of this ground of objection is respectfully requested.

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